

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 14 have been amended as a result of this Response. Claims 1 and 14 are independent claims.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Examiner has objected to the specification due to a minor informality on page 4. This minor informality has been corrected and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102(B) TEITZEL ET AL. REJECTION

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,533,170. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1 and 14 have been amended to more clearly distinguish the present invention over Teitzel. Claims 1 and 14 now include “performing said second conversion step in at least two of the beam processor units,” and “parallel data processing means in the beam processor units for in a second conversion step cutting the geometries in the fractured database into scan lines,” respectively.

Teitzel discloses a multibeam data path based on parallel rasterizers including beam boards which do not convert or manipulate the data received, but merely functions as a buffer for storing the data until it is needed (see e.g. col. 11, lines 30-41).

On the contrary, independent claims 1 and 14 involves a first conversion in which the input data is fractured into writing fields and a second conversion, within the beam processors, in which the geometries are cut into scan lines.

Teitzel fails to teach or suggest this feature. Thus, there is at least one difference between the invention as defined in independent claims 1 and 14 and Teitzel.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 14 are allowable for at least this reason. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 2-13 are allowable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 1, for at least the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

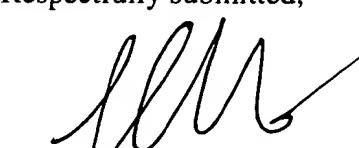
Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-14 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By


John A. Castellano, Reg. No. 35,094
P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

JAC/AMW/eah/jcp